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on

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APPLICATION NO.	F	ILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/714,987	08/714,987 09/17/1996		HUGH SHARKEY	17616-705	4099
23715	7590	12/17/2003		EXAMINER	
JOEL R. PETROW SMITH & NEPHEW, INC. 1450 BROOKS ROAD				SHAY, DAVID M	
				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MEMPHIS, TN 38116			3739	V	
				DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003	58

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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FILING DATE FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NUMBER

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

## DATE MAILED:

Below is a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application

ADVISORY ACTION	
ADVISORY ACTION	
HTHE PERIOD FOR REPLY:	
a) will expire months from the date of the final Office action (including extensions of time granted).	
b) expires either (1) three months from the mail date of the final Office action, or (2) on the mail date of this Advisory Action,	
whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than six months from the mail date of the final Office action.	
Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filled is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above.	
Appellant's Brief is due in accordance with 37 CFR 1.192(a).	
Applicant's reply to the final rejection, filed National Applicant's reply to the final rejection filed National Applicant (National Applic	
1. The proposed amendment to the claim and/or specifications will not be entered and the final rejection stands because:	
<ul> <li>a.          There is no convincing showing under 37 CFR 1.116(b) why the proposed amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented.     </li> </ul>	
b. They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. (See Note).	
c. They raise the issue of new matter. (See Note).	
d. They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal.	
e. They present additional claims without cancelling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.	
NOTE: I lemitations on surface moternal are new issue, possibly new matter	
Newly proposed or amended claimwould be allowed if submitted in a separately filed amendment cancelling the non-allowable claims.	
3. Upon the filing an appeal, the proposed amendment will be entered will not be entered and the status of the claims will be as follows:	
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3. Upon the filing an appeal, the proposed amendment will be entered will not be entered and the status of the claims will be as follows:  Claim allowed:  Claims objected to:  Claims rejected:  However;  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s):  4. The affidavit, exhibit or request for reconsideration has been considered but does not overcome the rejection because as can be seen from the term sending constructional flund at a Clearly flund in the sund columnass central applicant has provided by architecture showing of its absence therefore  5. The affidavit or exhibit will not be considered because applicant has not shown good and sufficent reasons why it was represented.  The proposed drawing correction has has not been approved by the examiner.  Other mathematic from symbolicants status that the flund pasts in the control of applicant may obtain further examination by filing a request for an application under 37 CFR 1.53(d) (CPA).  Unsections in the mathematic previous action are one bation the same as those of the outer preventing it. Any discussion of near grounds of	<b>L</b>
3. Upon the filing an appeal, the proposed amendment will be entered will not be entered and the status of the claims will be as follows:  Claim allowed:	<